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October 25, 2000

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Commissioner Jane Henney  
Docket No. 00P-1211\CP1  
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
5630 Fisher Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD. 20852

Dear Dr. Henney,

I am writing to express my concern over the FDA's regulation of genetically engineered (GE) food. I request that the agency's current policies be changed, and I support all the point in docket #00P-1211\CP1.

- *All GE foods should be labeled so I am informed and have a choice.*
- *GE foods should not be assumed to be "generally recognized as safe" (GRAS) and should have mandatory pre-market safety testing.*
- *There should be a moratorium on GE foods until long-term studies show they are safe for human health and the environment.*

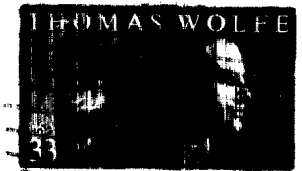
To allow the glamour of a new discovery to overshadow sound judgement, and to give permission to flood our fields with experimental organisms, which once releases can never be recalled, is not only an extremely foolish misuse of science, it's irresponsible. Forty years ago, DDT was thought to be a safe and promising addition to agriculture. Thalidomide was given to pregnant women by their doctors. Saccharine was touted as a wonderful alternative to sugar. Marketed prematurely, each of these technological innovations brought unforeseen, unwanted and tragic side effects – which could have been easily avoided through long-term safety testing. To conscript the American people into this experiment, without their knowledge or consent — to put these foods on the shelves of our grocery stores with out labels – is not only un-American, it's unconscionable. This technology is so powerful that caution is absolutely called for. It is just common sense. As a fellow American citizen, I urge you to support my right to knowledge so I can choose what foods I will eat and feed my family!

Sincerely,

L. Pace  
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